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Return of the National Student

A "Young People's Lobby for Jobs" and a rally at the U.S. Capitol will be held in Washington on April 14 to protest the Reagan Administration's plans to cut wasteful government spending and curb the oppressive federal bureaucracy.

The lobby is being organized by the Young Worker's Liberation League (YWLL), the youth group of the Communist Party, U.S.A. But what is of particular interest is that a major co-sponsor is the United States Students Association (USSA), a national organization that claims to represent more than three million college and university students, including the statewide student associations of California, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania. Representatives John Conyers (D.-Mich.) and Ted Weiss (D.-N.Y.) are among the congressional sponsors of the activities.

The "youth lobby" will fight proposed cuts in the government boondoggle known as the CETA jobs program, work to "save" the Department of Education from possible extinction, and promote the strengthening and expansion of affirmative action "for all jobs and education programs." The lobby will also oppose the idea of a youth sub-minimum wage, a proposal designed to increase job opportunities for young people.

The lobbying and rally are scheduled on the last day of a "national student lobbying conference" of the USSA to be held in Washington on April 10-14. On April 14, according to Pedro Rodriguez, national student secretary of the YWLL, representatives of the YWLL, the USSA and other groups will visit congressional offices to press their demands. In addition, the USSA is trying to arrange a meeting with Secretary of Education Terrel H. Bell later that day. The "Rally for Youth Employment" will follow these activities.

The USSA, which claims as members more than 225 student governments and about 25 state student associations, has lobbied Congress for many years for more federal funding and involvement in education. The USSA claims to have played a "major role" in the creation of the Department of Education and, perhaps as a result, received a \$52,346 grant from the Department. The USSA worked closely with the Carter Administration on many educational issues, opposing, for example, the tuition tax credit bill.

One USSA brochure contains the following statement by former President Carter: "One way that I know that my Administration is on the right track in the field of education is the continued and enthusiastic support of our programs in education and other fields."

One issue on which the Carter Administration opposed the USSA was its support of "educational t campuses to "provide and [our] increasingly The USSA selected as one Jack Colhoun, a now a correspondent newsweekly.

The Colhoun selected the radical turn the U revealed in 1967 that the tion, which merged with by to form the USSA funds. Today the USS platform that oppose campus. This would, o from even meeting with and universities. The U the CIA's "authority to infiltrate and influence foreign organizations, like foreign student groups."

Those "student groups," as it turns out, work closely with the USSA. The USSA is, in fact, an observer at meetings of the International Union of Students (IUS), one of the two major international Communist youth organizations. The other is the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY), whose U.S. affiliate is the YWLL.

According to the 1978 CIA Report on Soviet Propaganda Operations, prepared at the request of Rep. John Ashbrook (R.-Ohio), the IUS and the WFDY are the organizers of the Communist "youth festivals" that are staged every few years. The most recent one was in Cuba in 1978. The co-chairmen of the U.S. delegation to that event were James Steele, national chairman of the YWLL, and Frank Jackalone, past chairman of the USSA.

In an interview conducted at the USSA Washington headquarters, the USSA executive director, Frank X. Viggiano, defended his organization's contacts with the IUS. "We don't endorse them. We realize it's heavily dominated by the East. We realize it's heavily supported by Soviet resources," Viggiano said. He added that he realizes that "a lot of things they say are basically voicing Soviet policy." Nevertheless, Viggiano said IUS meetings provide an opportunity to discuss issues of "detente" and "world peace" with students of many other countries.

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